

10-9-1936

## M.W.A.K. Columbian, Vol. 2, No. 42

Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier Co.

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MASON-WALSH-ATKINSON-KIER COMPANY  
Grand Coulee Dam

Mason City, Washington,  
October 15th 1936.

BULLETIN: TO ALL M-W-A-K COMPANY EMPLOYEES.

Attention of all is called to the fact that the United States Bureau of Reclamation has now provided additional parking space on the West side, and that M-W-A-K Company employees, without exception, must use such parking places to their full capacity before leaving their private cars elsewhere in the area.

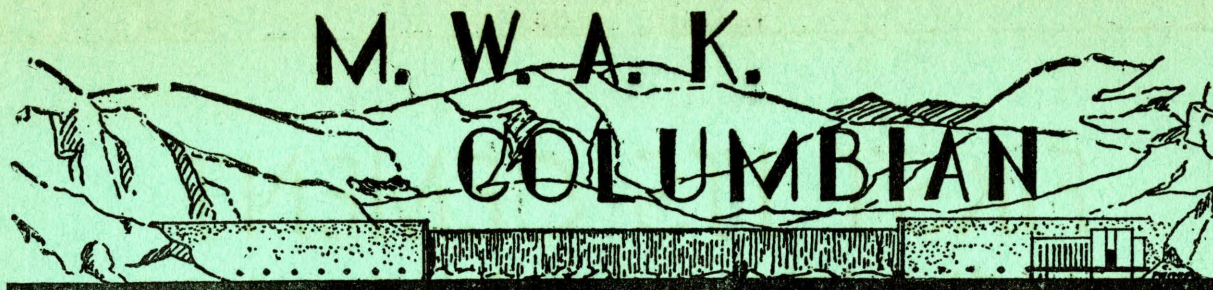
In no event will promiscuous parking on the streets of the Bureau of Reclamation Townsite ("Engineers' Town" - Coulee Dam) be permitted.

MASON-WALSH-ATKINSON-KIER COMPANY

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. H. Slocum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line drawn underneath the name.

M. H. Slocum





SAFETY  
DEPARTMENT

MASON-WALSH-ATKINSON-KIER CO.  
BUILDERS OF COULEE DAM

MASON CITY  
WASHINGTON

Vol. 2 No. 42

M. Pete Shrauger--Editor  
Safety Engineer

October 16, 1936

# ADD TEN TO MWAK FLEET

King Arthur had his Lancelot, Lancelot his Elaine, and Elaine her barge and bier draped in white samite.

The Erie canal found its history studied with records of barges sliding along between her banks.

Napoleon, "the little corporal," accepted a barge as a scene for signing a treaty.

In history, war and commerce, barges became means to important results.

And they have a place in the construction field.

The MWAK has a fleet. Floating on the Columbia river are 12 hulks of various sizes and for sundry duties.

Resplendent in red and green on two ring life preservers on a veteran vessel off the end of the upriver cribs are the words: "Flagship S. S. Waller." The craft has a mast but no flag snakes out in the breeze. From stem to stern no railing rims the deck. No "Ship ahoy!" or "Avast there!" sounds from her crew of five or from her captain.

The S. S. Waller is one of the two oldest barges for the MWAK on the river. She

is the oldest in very active service. Her sister, built at the same time, now has a more leisurely life. From the sister's deck upward there is no mast, no additional structures.

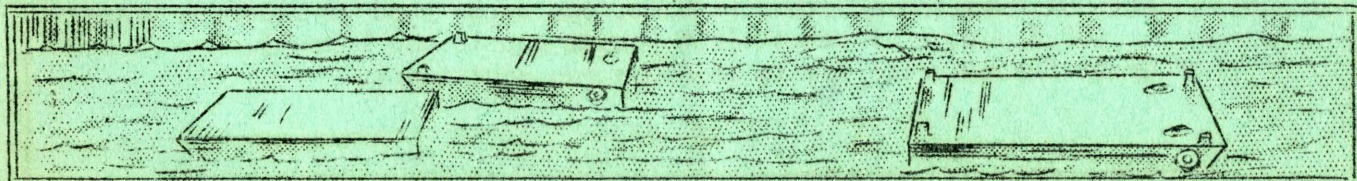
The S. S. Waller has been the active barge along the river, in pile driving and removal and in taking river soundings. The sister, under the supervision of Capt. F. J. Tuttle has been the transportation barge 'cross river for excavation equipment, whirleys and the like. The barges are 35x60 feet and seven feet high to the deck. Bill Lockhart, carpenter foreman on the west side, began work on these first two barges October 20, 1934.

The sisters were the only such work crafts on the river until the five small barges were built to permit pumping the 400,000,000 gallons of water from the east side area this summer; and until five additional structures from 100 to 125 feet long were begun and are now all practically complete for the launching and locating of the balance of the river cribs.

Before construction began on any barge,

(Continued on Page 5)

← SATURDAY--TOMORROW--IS YOUR LAST CHANCE  
TO REGISTER FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS, NOV. 3. →





# FIRST ITS CEMENT THEN ITS CONCRETE

CEMENT-CONCRETE RELATIONSHIP  
from Nov. 28, 1935 to Oct. 1, 1936

Cement (as received at silos)					Concrete
MONTH	YEAR	CARLOADS	BARRELS	POUNDS	YARDS
November	1935	132	33,000		224
December		28	7,000		20,846
January	1936	210	52,500		53,843
February		153	38,250		11,589
March		335	83,750		101,023
April		783	195,750		144,765
May		644	161,000		183,873
June		824	206,000		197,117
July		851	212,750		200,229
August		918	229,500		206,408
September		977	244,250		221,000
Totals		5,855	**1,463,750	#514,000,000	*1,340,917

\*\* Assuming a carload contains 250 barrels.

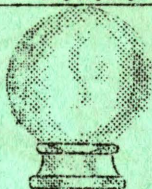
# From Government totals.

Without considering other factors, one cubic yard of concrete takes 383.3 pounds of cement (376 pounds equals one barrel).

\* Grout for concrete totals 13,000 yards additional.



## FROM THE CRYSTAL BALL



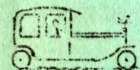
SLEUTH JACK CROOKS back to the uniform again.....

JOHN (BARRYMORE) VICTOR MIMS shaking hands with a lady.....

RONNIE FLEMING buying diamonds again.....

STEVE DUDLEY, "I'm losing my grip.".....

PECK FULLER usefully exemplifying what a youthful man ought to be.



WALTER ANDERSON spinning in a new '25 Packard.....

LILLIAN BUSTER flying through the air with a firmament o'ercast with a pale moon and silvery shadows of cloud.....

HUGH COCHRANE with a station wagon showing traces of largae.....

SWEDE HALL battling wildly and valiantly with "wild" cats over his lunch.....

LEE CLAYTOR stumping for the metropolitan area of Elmerton.....

AARON BURROS agreeing to stop the four wheels for a while.....

C. E. SEARS temporarily disillusioned as to the possibility of breaking into the wilds.....

GIFF RISTE seriously evaluating the gold in bridgework.....

BILL ARNDT patting Gil Darwin on the back.

ART GEIGER, "It can be a long, long ride to Wilbur.".....

BILL GRAY, SR. ready to face the world with new arms and ammunition.....

BESS SLATER plugging in on what's what wherever it is.....

C. E. BLACKSTONE pushing a long stick at a little ball.....

J. I. McFARLAND making paper zigzags, not entirely for fun.....

CLINT HEID, "Some day the merits of the great will be recognized.".....

JIMMY HOWELLS admitting that somebody discovered America on some Oct. 12.....

STEVE GIRARD choosing the wrong odds on the right horse.....

HU BLONK worrying over the one word added to his three and one-half million.....

RALPH A. STOUT missing out on a prospective financial success last Saturday.

V. J. VOGGENTHALER, "There is nothing good about a nail in the foot!"

OLE STRANDBERG bemoaning the loss to posterity of Helen of Troy.....

CHARLEY "BOY" GAUT hestering inspectors...

## A YEAR AGO

---Senators Neeley (West Virginia) and Gibson (Vermont) and Representatives Greer and Treadway accompanied Congressman Sam B. Hill to the dam site.

---The new highway bridge was formally opened to traffic Wednesday.

---Ninety students and 10 professors from Washington State college inspected the dam area.

---Place corrugated iron coverings over aggregate suspension bridge to protect from weather.

---Lay 15 sections of copper overload mat for the west power house.

---Westmix ready for steel placement.

---Bedrock blasting shifts away from the west abutment.

---High school elects officers.

---Heavy construction work completed at gravel plant.

---Steady rainfall slows up earth excavation.

## ODDS ENDS

The White House was the first public building erected in Washington. The corner stone was laid Oct. 13, 1792. The site was selected by Major L'Enfant, the French engineer who prepared the plan for the city. The architect was James Hoban, a native of Ireland who had resided for several years in Charleston, North Carolina.

A QUARTER OF A CENTURY HENCE GLACIER NATIONAL PARK WILL BE WITHOUT GLACIERS IF THE PRESENT RATE OF RECESSION CONTINUES, SAID DR. F. E. MATHES, OF THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY. EXCEPT IN THE ARCTIC REGIONS, GLACIERS ELSEWHERE ON THE CONTINENT ARE RAPIDLY DIMINISHING.

Seventy-five thousand men and women attended American universities and colleges in 1891. Now more than one million attend. Thirty per cent of the total were women, now nearly 40 per cent.

Farms for the year 1930 numbered 6,-288,648 in the United States.

In January, 1935, 21,455,799 homes in the United States had radios; 48,300,000 receiving sets throughout the world.





"That fellow Brown must live in a very small flat."

"How can you tell?"

"Why, can't you notice that his dog wags his tail up and down, instead of sideways?"

John Kier: "Have you any references?"

Would Be Employee: "Sure, here's the letter: 'To whom it may concern. John Jones worked for us one week and we're satisfied.'"

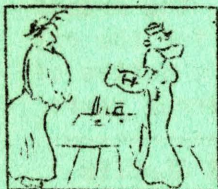
STRANGE THAT NONE OF THESE FOLKS WHO KNOW EXACTLY HOW TO RUN A GOVERNMENT EVER LANDS A PLACE IN WASHINGTON.

"No, you can't see Mr. Smith," snapped the sharp-faced woman to the political canvasser at the door.

"But, madam," expostulated the canvasser, "I merely wish to find out what party he belongs to."

"Well, then take a good look at me. I'm the party he belongs to."

FUNNY HOW THERE IS A FLAT TIRE AT EVERY BLOWOUT.



"Excuse me," said the dear old lady, "Do those tattoo marks wash off?"

"Can't say, lady," replied the old salt, "I've never tried."

Bobby (who had been scolded by his mother): "I say, dad, we'd have had a fine time doing as we liked if you hadn't married mother."

HOW LONG WOULD YOUR SAVINGS LAST IF YOU WERE DISABLED?

The careless, reckless driver is the one who greets his wife at night with: "Guess who I bumped into today?"

-oOo-

The newlyweds on their honeymoon had the drawing room. The groom gave the negro porter a dollar not to tell anybody on the train they were bride and groom. When the happy couple went to the diner for breakfast next morning, all the passengers snickered, and pointed, and eyed the couple knowingly. The groom called the porter and demanded:

"Did you tell anybody on the train we were just married?"

"No, sir," said the dusky porter, "I told 'em you all was just good friends."

SIGN ON STUDE'S DOOR: "IF I AM STUDYING WHEN YOU ENTER, WAKE ME UP."

A meek little man was in court for a minor offense.

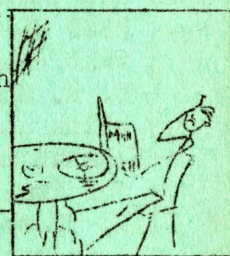
"Were you ever in trouble before?" asked Justice R. L. Cross.

"Well, er--er--," was the hesitating response, "I kept a library book too long once, and was fined 6 cents."

A MAGAZINE WRITER SAYS A DOG FILLS AN EMPTY PLACE IN MAN'S LIFE. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE OF THE HOT DOG.

Jimmy Howells: "Did you ever see a little bird with a big bill?"

Hans Schildnecht: "Yes, I once ordered a quail on toast at a fashionable restaurant."



SAFETY PRACTICES BROKE RECORDS  
BUT NO NECKS

"Most interesting," said the sweet young thing to Joe Trombley, "and now show me the depreciation, please; I hear it is heavy in these cars."

"As a matter of fact," replied Joe, "we found it a source of worry, and had it removed."

-oOo-



**MWAK FLEET PERFORMS**

(Continued from Page 1)

a skid rig began driving piling for the first Company bridge across the river. The same skid rig, in modified form to permit pile driving, pile removal, claming, and river sounding, has become a part of the S. S. Waller ever since.

Following construction of the bridge, the flotilla of two took over their adopted duties in their maiden voyages. The flagship Waller-to-be with the present foreman, Paul Waller, on her deck first drove piling for the piers of the railroad bridge, tore out the piling of the first bridge, moved upward to repair a break in the west cofferdam, drove piling for the conveyor bridge and finally removed the steel beams at the time of its dismantling. She also drove piling for the protection of the downriver pump house.

One other duty she had, one year ago. Vertical pipes along one side, five feet apart, permitted soundings of the river for cross-river cofferdams. A row of soundings across the river was followed by another back, but two and one-half feet off the first. This gave 2½-foot soundings. The ice and water, however, conspired to scour river bottom. The soundings were not to be relied upon.

Two months ago the barge began her duty of taking new soundings so that river cribs might fit river bottom like pieces in a mosaic. Taking upward to 700 soundings in two 6-hour shifts, 40,000 soundings essentially have completed the check of the crib pathways. The barge is finishing up a few scattered repeat soundings in which intersection points from three transits failed to agree exactly. Following this work other soundings, five feet apart, will be taken along the deep water of the river to chart a channel for the floating down of huge 85-foot crib bottoms for the downriver cofferdam. Channel sounding will be rapid because the deep channel course is already pretty well known.

METICULOUS CARE IN TAKING RIVER SOUNDINGS HAVE BROUGHT RESULTS. CRIBS ALREADY RESTING ON RIVER BOTTOM FIT. AND THEY FIT WELL. THEY FIT EVEN BETTER THAN EXPECTED. JAGS AND ODD-SHAPES ON RIVER BOTTOM WERE EXPECTED TO PRESENT DIFFICULTIES. BUT THE

THOUSANDS OF SOUNDINGS TAKEN ONLY TWO FEET APART HAVE LITERALLY TRANSPOSED RIVER BED-ROCK TO PAPER SO THAT IT CAN BE SEEN.

Why should a crib fit so exactly? Because it will be stronger and more water-tight. By fitting tightly to river rock, cribbing will lock itself to the bottom. It will prevent a rapid scour of river bottom which would result if water could course under the cribbing. It is also remembered that the cofferdams must be stable and that water in the river area for concrete must be pumped out, and that the less leakage the better.

To make possible the soundings the boom from the original skid derrick was removed and a set of pile driving leads installed, 60 feet high. These hold the vertical 62-foot sounding rod in place. A cable from the back of the barge holds the rod in place in the water. The rod has recorded a maximum depth of the water at 54 feet.

Seven drums are used for the hoists on the "flagship." Four are needed for moving the craft to the exact location and for sounding itself. Three hold the barge in position. Two lines of cable reach to pulleys on the end river crib and two to the west cofferdam. These are for maneuvering the barge. A rear anchor cable reaches 600 feet upstream to a boulder bulging up out of the river.

Signals are exchanged in determining the exact location for each shot by three transmitters from different points on each shore and by an engineer on the barge. The number of the soundings are made visual to the shoremen by a "clock." The clock has a series of four "books" with metal leaves with a number on each leaf. Side by side, the leaves reach a maximum recorded number of 9999, before starting over.

Movement of heavy barges up and down the river is done by the tugboat "Vagabond." This operates from a 200 horsepower motor.

Of barges in use, five are now derrick barges, one an oil barge, one a rigging barge, and the rest for miscellaneous work such as hauling sheet piling, lumber and the like. The large barges can hold up more than 500 tons.

-oOo-



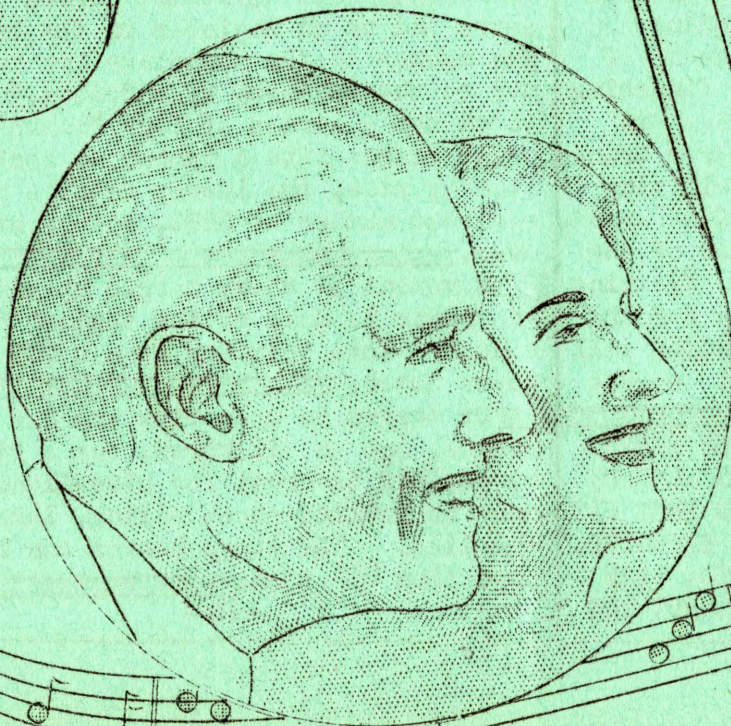
# MASON CITY THEATRE

SUN, MON, TUES.

Marion  
TALLEY  
Michael  
BARTLETT  
**FOLLOW  
YOUR  
HEART**

*The Screen's Newest Singing Stars*

LOUIS ALBERNI  
WALTER CATLETT  
BEN BLUE





# CHURCHES

**COMMUNITY CHURCH**—The Rev. W. W. Sloan,  
Ph. D., pastor

9:45 a.m. Church school.  
11:00 a.m. Morning worship; subject,  
"Communion As Fellowship."  
11:00 a.m. Junior church.  
7:00 p.m. Three meetings:  
Junior high society  
Senior high group  
Vesper services continued on "Men  
Have Changed the World."

**CATHOLIC CHURCH**—Father A. Farrelly, pastor

On Sunday, Oct. 18, mass will be said  
in Mason City at 9 a.m. in St. Benedict's  
church and in Grand Coulee at 11 a.m. In-  
structions for children will be given Sat-  
urday at 10 a.m.

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY**

**SAINTS** will conduct Sunday School at  
10:30 a.m. in the Mason City high school  
building.

—oOo—

**WATCH THOSE HANDS--THEY ARE  
ESPECIALLY SUBJECT TO INJURY**

**FIVE GOOD BRANDS--**

The percentage  
of the five kinds  
of cement bought for  
the Grand Coulee  
dam and not given  
complete last week  
are:

Superior, 47.4  
Olympic, 18.2  
Lehigh, 14.2  
Northwest, 10.7  
Spokane, 9.5

—oOo—

Concrete on the  
west side consists  
of 259 blocks.

—oOo—

Kilowatt con-  
sumption at the dam  
site is somewhat less  
than 10,000 hourly.  
About 230 miles of  
rubber-covered wire  
conduct electricity.

# LOST

**WHAT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON LOST THE  
BASKETEERS OF MASON CITY GAINED---**

The regular varsity forwards at the  
university at Eugene will not return to  
their alma mater this winter.

Instead Gail Fouts, 200 pounds of six  
feet four-inches, and Leonard Heller, hard-  
ly two inches shorter, are candidates for  
a berth on the Mason City Oilers' basket-  
ball team.

Other prospects may include Merle Ped-  
igana, varsity forward from the University  
of Wyoming, and Ted Swindall, former fresh-  
man numeral winner at the University of  
Washington. Neither have turned out.

Ten turned out for the opening warm-up  
exercises last Saturday night. A turn-  
out is again scheduled this Saturday at  
7 p.m. The squad finally will consist of  
10 men.

The local high school squads and the  
USBR consider the first of November for  
their opening floor work.

# PRE-DIX-SHUNS

—by Joe Farrell

---

California-14-----  
U.C.L.A.-0.  
U.S.C.-21--U.S.C.-7  
Oregon-14--Idaho-0.  
Washington-7---  
Oregon State-0.  
Gonzaga-12--Montana  
---0.

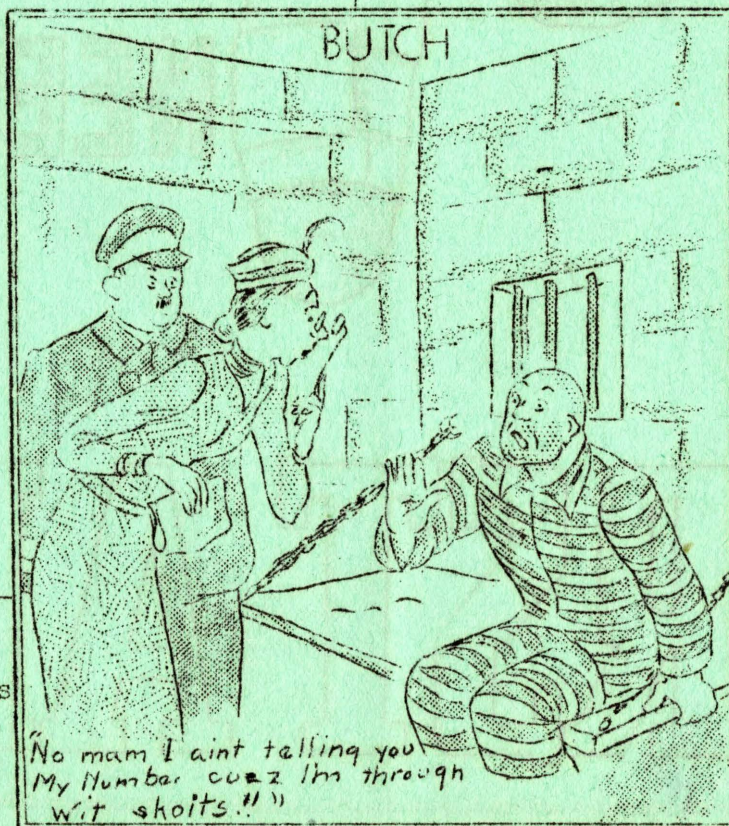
Won-Lost record:  
4 of 5 correct  
last week.

Total: 10 of 15.

—oOo—

**CARL HUBBELL IS BACK**  
home, but a post-sea-  
son series will be  
held just the same.

The Yiants and  
the Ganks will cut  
at one another at  
4 p.m. Oct. 15, 16  
19, 20, 21, 22 and 23  
in Walsh stadium.  
Adm. 5 and 10 cents.



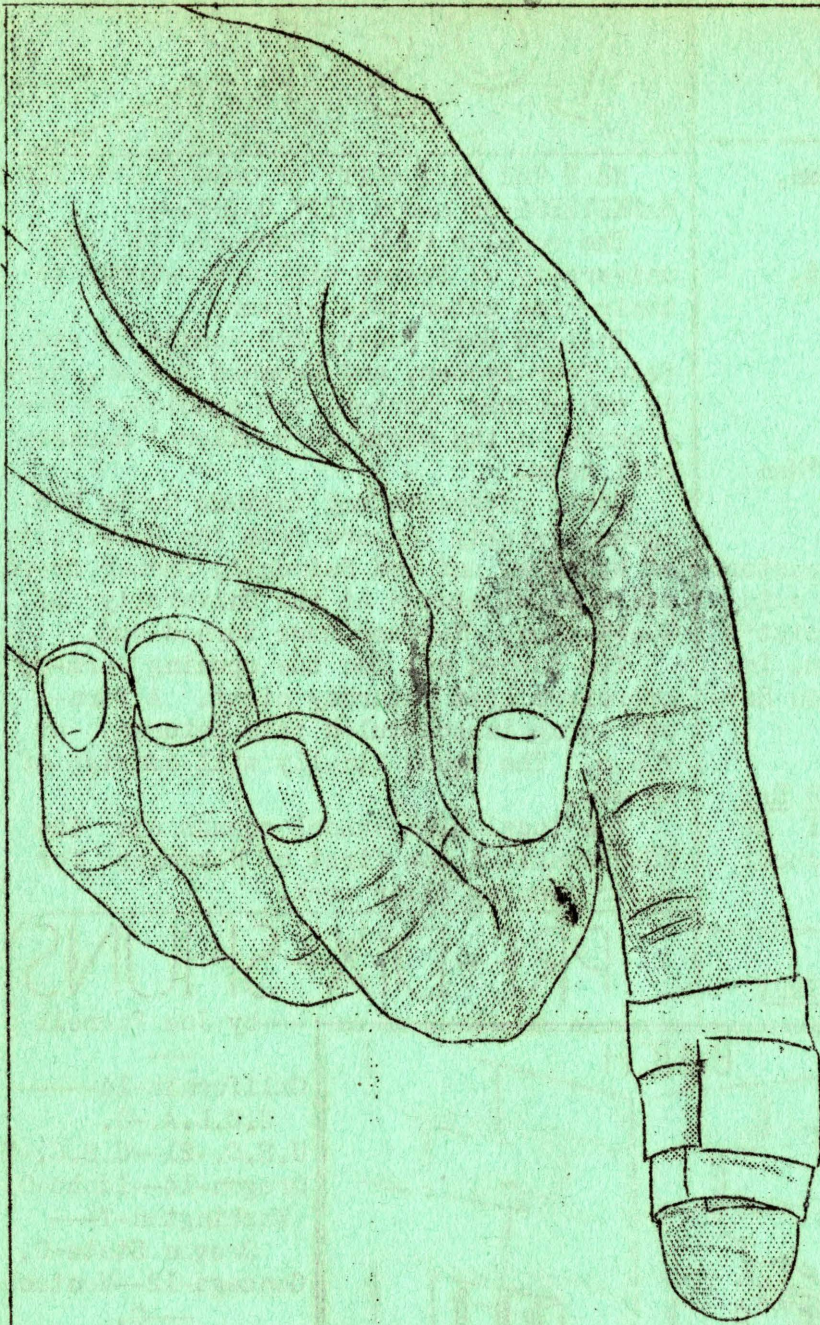
"No mam I aint telling you  
My Number cozz I'm through  
wit shoits!!"



EVERY

WOUND

NEEDS



FIRST AID



WANT SOMETHING TO SEE WITH?

It is no blind stab into thin air to say that your eyes stand a high mathematical chance of injury. Statistics of injuries received on the job here show that the eyes receive more wounds than any other parts of the body, excepting the hands and feet.

Workmen whose work subjects them to a higher possibility of eye injury are supplied with goggles, a special kind for a particular work, to be used over, not above, the eyes. Even though their visibility is not as good as the naked eye, the naked eye would be of little value if blind or injured. A rule to follow is: NEVER TAKE CHANCES WITH YOUR EYES; THEY MEAN YOUR LIVELIHOOD!!!

If an eye accident occurs, keep the eye closed, place a finger over the opposite nostril and blow vigorously. This promotes a flow of tears and may wash an object out where it might be removed. A method for removal is to pull the lashes of the upper lid down over the lower and release. Liquid or other similar material in the eye can often be flushed out with cold water. When hard particles, such as steel or glass are imbedded, action by a doctor is necessary; until that time the eyelid should be kept closed.

-oOo-

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION ANNOUNCES open competitive examinations for assistant actuarial mathematician and junior mathematician, \$2600 and \$2000 a year. Information may be obtained at your local post office. Washington is one of the states with a low quota for the positions.

-oOo-

OPEN DANCE SEASON

A big event will open Mason City's dance season.

Reminiscent of last year's social affair, the American Legion post sponsors another cabaret dance. The dance will be held Armistice night, Nov. 11, in the north wing of the Company mess hall. A popular orchestra and floor show entertainers have already been secured. At least 400 couples are expected. Reservations will be made at the door.

-oOo-

REACH HIGH EMPLOYMENT TOTAL

Employment last week reached an all-time high with 5526 listed at the dam site. This supplants the previous high of 5511 for August 21.

The MWAK proper employed 4862; plus its concessions, 5037. The USBR listed 489.

-oOo-

GAME PROTECTOR WILL ADDRESS CLUB

Game Protector Wardoll will discuss predators and the propagation of wild life at the next meeting of the Poggie club, sportsmen's organization, Oct. 20, 8 p.m., social room, Mason City recreation hall.

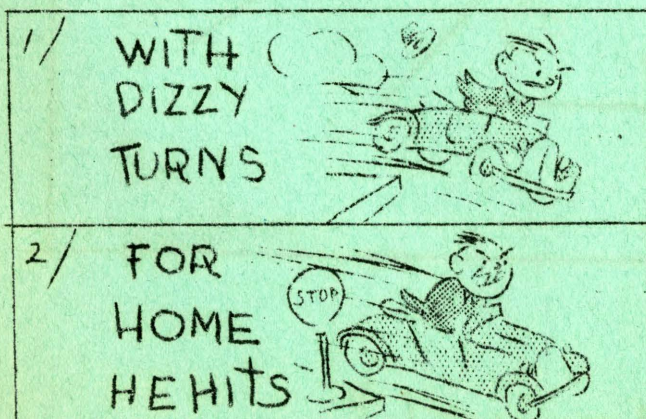
Nomination of officers for the club also will be held.

-oOo-

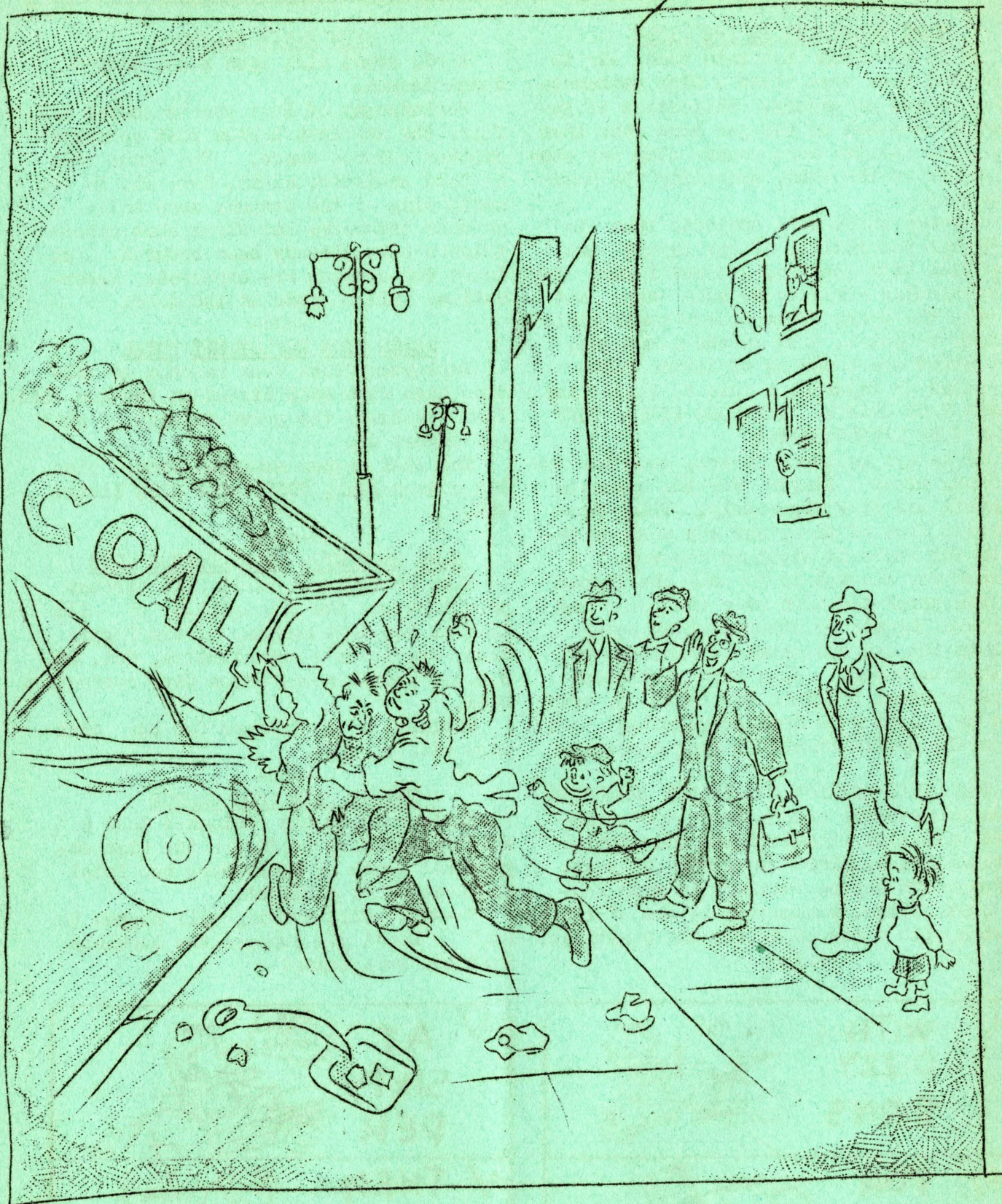
THIRTY DAYS SHOW CHANGE

While compensable accidents took a substantial drop to 20 for the high employment month of September, two fatal accidents cast a blight.

"—Oh, well, nothing will happen to me." Don't you suppose the luckless said the same thing?







"FAKE! FAKE!"





### TO ALL EMPLOYEES

A ruling has been received from the Bureau of Reclamation granting the various political parties authority to solicit contributions to campaign funds in Mason City.

It is to be distinctly understood that such contributions are to be voluntarily given, and that the employees of Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier Company are not to be coerced in any way during this soliciting campaign.

The attitude of the company must remain strictly non-partisan in this situation, and is not in any way connected with any of this solicitation.

MASON-WALSH-ATKINSON-KIER COMPANY

October 14, 1936

### EAST SET FOR FIRST CONCRETE

Down out of sight in a bedrock cut, bureau of reclamation engineers Thursday set points to limit the size of the first east side pour, for the erection bay of the power house. The setting of points will be followed by the fitting in of panel forms and necessary pipe and steel work, and then concrete pouring. The block will be only 20 feet wide.

-oOo-

### C GROUT MAKES AUSPICIOUS FAREWELL

Just before west side C grouting Thursday bade its adieu, a new cement record was checked up.

High pressure forcing of cement and water 75 feet into bedrock through pipes in concrete blocks set a one-shift high Tuesday when 3570 sacks or 335,580 pounds of cement were used in eight hours. This broke by 91 sacks a record that has stood since July 18. The swing shift set the mark.

Last Saturday 3315 sacks were used.

-oOo-

### CONCRETE SET FOR DIVERSION

While concrete now pours out into many blocks, not more than one 5-foot lift for nine blocks remains before first river diversion plans.

The blocks are 35-B and D, 37-B, and power house blocks 4-, 6-, 8- and 9-B, and possibly 9-A and 7-B. The required height is to 940.

-oOo-

### INTERESTED IN 1%?

For the past week the MWAK accounting department has turned attention toward computing the 1% state unemployment tax to be returned to employees. The amount of the tax, an accumulation since January 1, will be returned to employees in a separate check as soon as possible.

-oOo-

### TWINS? NOW TRIPLETS

Take a look at the west side concrete high trestle. A third hammerhead rests on it.

The hammerhead, partly dismantled, left its former home on the low trestle to cross block 11 on a temporary trestle to look down from its higher 1024-foot level. This happened last week end.

-oOo-

BORN--at the Mason City hospital----- Oct. 13, to Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Wycoff of Grand Coulee, a son.

-oOo-

TO MEET RIVER DIVERSION PLANS, THE 300 feet of low trestle between blocks 32 and 40 will be removed next week.

The settlement of 13 west side buildings is already disappearing. A new carpenter shed is under construction above riprap.

Bulkhead work is under way to keep water from galleries and other concrete entrances.

-oOo-

### NO FIRST-AID CLASSES NEXT WEEK

IF YOU WANT TO VOTE NOV. 3, SATURDAY IS YOUR LAST DAY TO REGISTER!



# MEAT DEPT SPECIALS

STAR HAMS ..... 25¢ #  
STAR BACON ..... 21¢ PKGE  
SLICES HAM ..... 10¢ EACH

LEGS SPRING LAMB ..... 23¢ #  
SHLD' SPRING LAMB ..... 19¢ #  
LAMB STEW ..... 5¢ #

LARGE CRABS

35¢  
EACH

FISH  
&  
OYSTERS

## COULEE TRADING CO